

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the subtitle on page 1, line 1 with the following rewritten subtitle:

~~DESCRIPTION~~TITLE

Please add the following new paragraph after the Title ending on line 2 of page 1:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application claims priority to Japanese Patent Document No. P2004-080703 filed on March 19, 2004, the disclosure of which is herein incorporated by reference.

Please replace the subtitle on page 1, line 3 with the following rewritten subtitle:

~~BACKGROUND~~Technical Field

Please delete the following paragraph ending on line 12, page 1:

This application claims a priority based on Japanese Patent Application No. 2004-080703 filed on March 19, 2004 in Japan that is applied to this application with reference thereto.

Please delete the following subtitle on page 1, line 13:

~~Background Art~~

Please replace the subtitle on page 4, line 19 with the following rewritten subtitle:

~~Disclosure of the Invention~~SUMMARY

Please add the following new paragraph after the paragraph ending at line 1 on page 10:

Additional features and advantages of the present invention are described in, and will be apparent from, the following Detailed Description and the Figures.

Please replace the subtitle on page 10, line 2 with the following rewritten subtitle:

~~Brief Description of the Drawings~~BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

Please replace the subtitle on page 11, line 9 with the following rewritten subtitle:

~~Best Modes for Carrying out the Invention~~DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Please add the following new paragraph after the paragraph ending at line 6 on page 33:

It should be understood that various changes and modifications to the presently preferred embodiments described herein will be apparent to those skilled in the art. Such changes and modifications can be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention and without diminishing its intended advantages. It is therefore intended that such changes and modifications be covered by the appended claims.

Please replace the ABSTRACT on page 38 with the following rewritten subtitle:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for detecting gene mutation and a kit for detecting gene mutation are provided.

A solution including a single-stranded nucleic acid (10)-having a target base (11)-related to an SNP or the like is mixed with a solution including two kinds of single-stranded detecting nucleic acids (20a)-and (20b)-complementary to partial sequences that sandwich the target base (11) between them to hybridize the target nucleic acid (10)-and the detecting nucleic acids (20a)-and (20b). Thus, a gap part (21)-is intentionally formed at a position opposed to the target base (11). Then, a receptor molecule (30)-having hydrogen bonding characteristics and fluorescence emitting characteristics is inserted to the gap part (21)-as a hydrophobic space. Then, the change of fluorescent strength of the receptor molecule (30)-depending on the difference of the target base (11)-is detected to detect a single nucleotide substitution.